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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIFTH SESSION OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935.

10th to 12th, 20th, 21st, 24th and 26th August and
3rd, 4th, 7th to 9th September 1948.

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MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Volume XIV (Nos. 1 to 12).

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does not exceed ten crores of rupees and that under the changes made by the Select Committee, it does not exceed twelve crores of rupees; and

(*b*) if so, what is the basis on which these figures are estimated?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"(*a*) Yes. The reference was to the compensation payable to zamindars alone.

"(*b*) The figures have been estimated with reference to the present rent rolls of the zamindars and the probable ryotwari demand in the estate areas after the abolition."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are going to discuss the Bill on this subject and it is better we take up the question then instead of putting supplementaries at this stage."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, this subject is going to be discussed in a few days along with amendments. Therefore, no useful purpose will be served by putting supplementary questions at this stage."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to put only one question. May I know, Sir, whether the entire amount of compensation will be paid as one lump sum or will be paid in instalments?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I will make a statement when that clause is discussed on the floor of the House."

Compulsory education of Hindi.

*212 *Q.*—SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is public support for the compulsory education of Hindi in schools; and

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will make Hindi as an optional subject?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"(*a*) The scheme for the reorganization of secondary education does not provide for compulsory education in Hindi. It is open to pupils to choose Sanskrit, Arabic or any other Indian language in the second language group as an alternative to Hindi.

"(*b*) Does not arise."

MR. SPEAKER:—"அதை அப்படியே தமிழில் சொல்லுங்கள்."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"ஹிந்தி கட்டாயப் பாடமாக வைத்திருக்கிறது என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. இரண்டாவது பாஷைகளாகிய சமஸ்கிருதம், அரபி, தமிழ், தெலுங்கு, கன்னடம் முதலியவைகளில் ஹிந்தியையும் ஒன்றாக வைத்து அவைகளில் ஹிந்தியை இஷ்டப்பட்டால் இரண்டாவது பாஷையாக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம் என்று வைத்திருக்கிறது."

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SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஹிந்தி கட்டாயம் இல்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால் கட்டாயமாக வைத்திருக்கிறது என்று வெளியிலிருக்கும் கருப்புச்சட்டைக்காரர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது உண்மையா என்று கேட்கிறேன் ? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" What they say is entirely . . . "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Then, I will have again to ask the Hon. Minister to translate the answer. So, it is better if both the supplementary questions and answers are in Tamil."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" அப்படி சொல்வது சரியல்ல. ஆனால் இந்த விஷயத்தை விளக்குவதற்கு சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்லலாம் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I have got a statement to make in English for the benefit of the House and it is this :

' *I would like to take this opportunity to explain the real situation in the matter. The study of Hindi will be necessary if South Indians are to take a rightful share in the administration of Government of India and to have full opportunities in sharing the national life of the country. It is necessary that this Government should give all facilities for the children of Madras to get themselves equipped properly for such a purpose.*

' *To such of those who do not like to have that equipment, it is open to them not to take Hindustani but to take any one of the other numerous alternative languages provided in the second language group. It is therefore wrong to say that there is any compulsion that students must take only Hindustani.*

' *It has been said that the growth of Tamil will be affected by this introduction of Hindustani. The place of Tamil has been considerably enhanced in recent times after this Government has come to power. In days when the party to which the Leader of the anti-Hindi movement belongs, was in power, Tamil was the second language and English was the first language. Besides English was the medium of instruction in all secondary schools and even in many elementary schools. Besides, boys could go through the whole of the secondary school and college courses without reading Tamil at all by taking such alternative language as Sanskrit. The Leader of the anti-Hindi movement who was the Leader of the Justice Party which was running the Government did not then take any steps to raise the status of the Tamil language about which they are talking so much now. And this only goes to prove that their cry that Tamil will be affected is a cry not on educational grounds but political.*

' *I must also make it clear here that it is the policy of this Government to develop Tamil and regional languages by all*

possible means. Prizes are being offered for good books in various subjects and help is being given for the preparation of Encyclopædias. Besides, Poet Laureates in these languages will also be appointed. And so, it will be seen that their suggestion that this Government will allow anything to affect the status and growth of the regional language is untrue.

'I must also give a warning to these mistaken friends who have started this anti-Hindi agitation. By their agitation they will harm only those people whom they profess to serve and this atmosphere of hatred in schools and amidst young men and women will be attended to by very undesirable consequences. I would entreat the leaders of the movement to consider these factors and not to continue this unnecessary strife'.''

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now, Sir, the Minister has made a long statement. Is it not advisable to take it up tomorrow for supplementary questions?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already put one supplementary question and it is not possible at this stage to take up the question tomorrow for supplementary questions. I will allow five more minutes on this question."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister for Education has made a long statement wherein he has made some allegations upon Leaders and wherein he has mentioned certain matters which cannot be accepted by the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is at liberty to make a statement on any supplementary question. Instead of replying in a single-sentence, he has given a lengthy answer. The hon. Member, Mr. Kanniyappan, will now put supplementary question on this."

SRI M. KANNIYAPPAN:—"*தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் நீண்ட ஒரு அறிக்கையை படித்தார்கள். தயவு செய்து அதை தமிழ் படுத்தினால் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன்.*"

12 noon. KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, the request made by Mr. Kanniyappan that the speech should be rendered in Tamil seems reasonable, in view of the Hon. Minister's statement that great encouragement is given to Tamil. I think the time of the House need not be taken now, for the purpose. If you would ask the Hon. Minister to place on the table of the House the English version as well as the Tamil version of the statement, I think we can put supplementary questions tomorrow. I agree with your ruling, but I submit, Sir, that this is necessary for the sake of convenience of the hon. Members. And I put it to your consideration."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the difficulty is this. Is it possible for the Hon. Minister to translate it now?"

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. This is not the place where examination in translation can be held. I am afraid, Sir, my hon. Friend will take up an unnecessarily long time of the House, for the purpose, and this would deny other questions being considered."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I want the Hon. Minister to translate it in Telugu also, because my hon. Friend Mr. Rafeeudin wants it."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No, Sir,"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member says he does not want it. (Interruption). Order, Order. Is it possible for the Hon. Minister to translate in about two minutes time?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, I will do it in just a minute."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"I understand the Hon. Minister is very bad in translation, Sir." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"தென் இந்திய மக்களும் வடஇந்திய மக்களும் இராஜீய விஷயங்களில் கலந்து கொண்டு சமஉரிமை பெறுவதற்கு ஹிந்தி தெரிந்துகொள்வது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்காகவே ஹிந்தியை கட்டாய பாடமாக்காமல் இரண்டாவதுபாஷை பாடமாக வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதையும் இஷ்டப்பட்டவர்கள் கற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம் என்றும் வைக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் சிலர் இப்படி ஹிந்தியை வைத்திருப்பதால் தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக்கு பாதகம் ஏற்படும் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இந்த அரசாங்கம் பதவிக்கு வந்த பிறகு தமிழ் எவ்வளவோ வளர்ச்சி அடைந்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது ஹிந்தி எதிர்ப்புக்கு தலை வராக இருக்கக்கூடியவர், அவர் பதவியிலிருந்த காலத்தில் தமிழ் இரண்டாவது பாஷையாகவும் இங்கிலீஷ் முதல் பாஷையாகவும் இருந்தது. அவ்விதம் வைத்து பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் இங்கிலீஷ் மூலமாகத்தான் பாடங்களை சொல்லிக்கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். அதனால் சிலர் தமிழ் படிக்காமலேயே B.A. வரை படித்துவரும் நிலைமையில் இருந்தது. இந்தமாதிரி தலைவர்கள் அப்பொழுது கிளர்ச்சி செய்யவில்லை. இப்பொழுது கிளர்ச்சி செய்வதெல்லாம் ஹிந்தி எதிர்ப்பு என்று பெயர் வைத்துக்கொண்டு இராஜீய எதிர்ப்பாக நடத்துகிறார்கள். இது கல்வி சம்பந்தமான எதிர்ப்பு இல்லை என்பதை எடுத்துக்காட்ட விரும்புகிறேன். அப்பொழுது பதவியிலிருந்தவர்கள் தமிழ்வளர்ச்சிக்கு ஒரு நடவடிக்கையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் அரசாங்கம் தமிழ் வளர்சிக்காக பரிசுகள் கொடுத்தும் Poet Laureatteகள் நியமித்தும் சங்கங்களை ஏற்படுத்தியும் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் நாட்டுமொழி வளர்ச்சிக்கு பாதகம் ஏற்படும் என்று சொல்வது தவறு.

"கடைசியாக ஒன்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த இயக்கத்தினால் யாருக்கு நல்லது செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறார்களோ அவர் களுக்கு கெடுதலையே விளைவிக்கும் என்பதை தெரிவிக்கிறேன். பள்ளி களில் எதிர்ப்பு உண்டாக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் தீங்கைதான் விளைவிக் கிறார்கள். ஆதலால், இப்பொழுது இயக்கத்தை ஆரம்பித்தவர்கள் தயவுசெய்து அதை விட்டுவிட வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளு கிறேன்."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. What was required was a translation of the statement and not another statement in Tamil."

GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Sir, I want it to be translated in Telugu also."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has given a gist of his statement in Tamil now."

GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Sir, I want it to be translated in Telugu also."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member knows English."

GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"తెలుగులో చెప్పమనండి."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"Sir, a translation in Hindustani also is desirable."

SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—"తెలుగులో చెప్పమనండి. ఆ Linguistic Provincess Commission వారిని ఇక్కడకు పిల్చి ఒకసారి చూడమంటారా?"

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, as referred by the Hon. Minister, whether the Leader of the Anti-Hindi Agitation Movement has ever been the Chief Minister of the Province? The Hon. Minister has stated that the person who is now leading the agitation had the opportunity of having Tamil as the first language when he was in power. I want to know whether he was in power."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I do not know whether the hon. Member has short memory. Certainly Mr. Rajamannar Chetty need not have short memory. Mr. E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker who is the leader of the Anti-Hindi Agitation Movement was the Leader of the Justice Party when it was in power."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, what steps the Hon. Minister for Education has taken to counteract this Anti-Hindi Movement?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"By explaining the real situation to the people."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Besides introducing Hindi for study as a language in schools, may I know what steps have the Government taken to popularise Hindi by means of propaganda on the radio and such other means?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I do not think, Sir, except certain talks that have been given in the radio, anything else has been done."

THE YUVARAJAH OF PITHAPURAM:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister as Hindustani is the national language, is it not desirable to make it a compulsory subject?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, it is open to those that want to learn Hindi, to read it. A provision has been made to that effect."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister when he refers to teaching of Hindi, means the teaching of Hindustani, and if so, whether teaching is provided in both the Urdu and Nagari scripts?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, for the Mussalmans, there is a provision."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"May I ask, Sir, whether serious attempts are being made by the Hon. Ministers to learn Hindi and, if so, what time will they take to learn Hindi?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That is not a part of the Government's programme or policy for the teaching of Hindustani."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that all this anti-Hindi agitation in Tamil Nad has arisen because of the partiality which the Hon. Minister made in providing Hindi as optional in Tamil Nad and compulsory elsewhere?"

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"In view of the Hon. Minister's statement that Hindi is not compulsory, may I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that only last week in Tondaimandalam High School, a boy was slapped on his face and turned out of the class, because he refused to read Hindi?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH:—"Has there been any appreciable fall in the number of children or students attending the Hindi schools owing to the persuation or picketing or intimidation of the black shirts?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If the hon. Member mentions any particular school or place where this has happened, then it will be time for me to make enquiries and let him know."

(Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju then put a question in Hindustani.)

(Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members must understand that when the Speaker stands, the other Members should resume their seats."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. May I know whether the Hon. Speaker has understood the language in which the hon. Member just now spoke—Urdu or Persian, God knows what . . .?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know what language he has spoken." (Laughter.)

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, is an hon. Member entitled to talk in any language which he knows, or is there any specific rule here that he must talk in a language which is known to this House? I wish to know the ruling of the Hon. Speaker, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I believe a copy of the Government of India Act, as amended recently, has been circulated among hon. Members. Under the previous Act, an hon. Member can speak in English or if he is ignorant of English, he can speak in his mother-tongue. Now that provision has been taken away. So I think they can speak in their mother-tongue. Hitherto that was not the case."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister has understood it, and can he give the answer in Hindi?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is true, Sir, that I do not know very much of Hindi. But that is no reason why the future generation of this country for whom Hindi is a necessity, should not be given facilities for learning it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Regarding the rest of the questions put down for to-day, the answers will be printed in the proceedings."

Meeting of the Board of Industries in Coimbatore.

* 213 *Q.*—SRI B. S. MURTHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a meeting of the Board of Industries was held in Coimbatore about 8th May 1948;

(*b*) whether the usual place of the meeting of the Board of Industries is Madras, and if so, why the venue was changed;

(*c*) what is the extra expenditure incurred by the Government on account of that change;

(*d*) whether Sri P. Govinda Menon, Joint Director, Industries and Commerce, is a member of the Board of Industries; and

(*e*) if not, why did he attend the meeting in Coimbatore and how was his travelling allowance adjusted?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"(*a*) Yes. The meeting was held on the 4th May 1948 and not on the 8th May 1948.

"(*b*) Yes. But the Rules framed under the State Aid to Industries Act permit meetings being held at such places as may be deemed fit by the Board of Industries.

"(*c*) About Rs. 200.

"(*d*) No.